

DANA ROHRBACHER  
46th District, California

Committees:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Ranking Republican, Subcommittee on  
International Organizations, Human  
Rights and Oversight  
Subcommittee on  
Asia, the Pacific, and  
the Global Environment

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Subcommittee on  
Space and Aeronautics  
Subcommittee on  
Investigations and Oversight



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

December 6, 2007

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2300 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0546  
(202) 225-2415 FAX: (202) 225-0145

DISTRICT OFFICE:

101 Main Street, Suite 380  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-8118  
(714) 960-6483 FAX: (714) 960-7806

South Bay: (310) 377-9493

<http://rohrbacher.house.gov>

The Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
The Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 20310-0101

**Re: Increased Army Corps Participation in the Long Beach, California Colorado Lagoon Restoration Effort**

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As the congressional representative for the City of Long Beach, California, I am writing to request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' consideration of \$2.2 million in increased funding for the Colorado Lagoon Restoration project in the President's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request.

The Colorado Lagoon (Lagoon) is a 28.9-acre tidal lagoon located in the middle of a suburban neighborhood. The Lagoon is used by hundreds of visitors from communities within and surrounding the City of Long Beach. It serves three main functions:

- 1) Hosting sensitive estuarine habitat;
- 2) Providing public recreation (including swimming); and
- 3) Retaining and conveying storm flows.

The Army Corps of Engineers previously awarded the City a \$900,000 Estuary Restoration Grant to dredge the accumulated polluted sediments from the Lagoon and to re-slope portions of the Lagoon's shore to allow replanting with native wetland plants. At the time of the grant award, original cost estimates for that project were low, since the original proposal underestimated the amount of sediment that requires dredging. The total amount of contaminated and compromised sediment that must be removed from the project site has increased significantly, and the total cost for the dredging project outlined above is now estimated at \$4.8 million.

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am requesting that the Army Corps provide an additional \$2.2 million in the Fiscal Year 2009 Presidential Budget request to augment the \$900,000 Estuary Restoration Grant so that this project can proceed. If funding is increased for the proposed project, the City of Long Beach commits to contributing an additional \$1.2 million (or 35 percent of the total project costs) to implement these critical restoration improvements.

Attached you will find additional information about the Colorado Lagoon project. As you can see, many positive actions are underway through a variety of non-federal funding sources. Long Beach is hopeful that the Army Corps can join the City of Long Beach, Port of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, State of California Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy, State Water Resources Control Boards, among others, to help move this project forward and improve the degraded conditions of these wetlands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Rohrabacher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress

DR:JS